

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented) A buoyancy compensator device, comprising an expandable air chamber and at least two outlets, one arranged in an upper region and one arranged in a lower region, wherein a manifold connects said expandable air chamber to said outlets by means of a control valve.

2. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1, wherein said outlets are each constituted by a one-way membrane.

3. (previously presented) The device according to claim 1 wherein said expandable air chamber is a vest and is provided with two shoulders that are connected by adjustable straps to a lower band that surrounds the hips of the diver.

4. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said expandable chamber can be filled with a mixture of breathable gas contained in a gas mix reserve of ~~[[the]]~~ a self-contained breathing apparatus by a mechanical inflator that comprises an inlet that is connected to the reserve and is operated by a pushbutton inflation control.

5. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 4, wherein said manifold is a tubular element that is provided with at least one upper one-way membrane, at least one lower one-way membrane, and at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged in one of the ends of said lower band, one of which comprises said pushbutton inflation control and a control pushbutton that actuates said control valve.

6. (currently amended) The device according to claim [[1]] 4, wherein said manifold is a tubular element that is provided with at least one upper one-way membrane, at least one lower one-way membrane and at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged at the end of a corrugated hose, which is associated with said expandable chamber and accommodates a part of said manifold, said part being a tubular element.

7. (previously presented) The device according to claim 6, wherein said end of the corrugated hose comprises said pushbutton inflation control and a control pushbutton that actuates said control valve, which is also arranged in said end.

8. (currently amended) The device according to claim [[1]] 4, wherein said manifold further comprises a central body and tubular elements that are connected respectively to at least one upper one-way membrane, to at least one lower one-way membrane, and to at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged at one end of said lower band.

9. (previously presented) The device according to claim 8, wherein said end of the lower band comprises said pushbutton inflation control and an actuation pushbutton that actuates said control valve by means of a servo control.

10. (currently amended) The device according to claim 9, wherein said control valve is located at said central body and is actuated by a pneumatic servo control that is supplied, through a duct, by the gas mix that arrives from [[the]] a reserve through said control pushbutton.

11. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said manifold is provided on the inside of said vest.

12. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said manifold is provided on the outside of said vest.

13. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said manifold is ~~shaped like a tube~~ tubular and ~~[[is]]~~ separate from the vest.

14. (currently amended) The device according to claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said manifold is constituted by portions of said vest.

15. (new) A buoyancy compensator device comprising:

an expandable air chamber;

a manifold extending to and communicating with at least two outlets, one of said outlets arranged in an upper region and one of said outlets arranged in a lower region of said expandable air chamber; and

a control valve disposed between said expandable air chamber and said manifold, whereby an opening of said control valve enables gas to pass from said expandable air chamber into said manifold and from said manifold through at least one of said outlets.

16. ((new) The device according to claim 15 wherein said expandable air chamber is a vest and is provided with two shoulders that are connected by adjustable straps to a lower band

that surrounds the hips of the diver.

17. (new) The device according to claim 16, wherein said expandable chamber can be filled with a mixture of breathable gas contained in a gas mix reserve of a self-contained breathing apparatus by a mechanical inflator that comprises an inlet that is connected to the reserve and is operated by a pushbutton inflation control.

18. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein said manifold is a tubular element that is provided with at least one upper one-way membrane, at least one lower one-way membrane, and at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged in one of the ends of said lower band, one of which comprises said pushbutton inflation control and a control pushbutton that actuates said control valve.

19. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein said manifold is a tubular element that is provided with at least one upper one-way membrane, at least one lower one-way membrane and at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged at the end of a corrugated hose, which is associated with said expandable chamber and accommodates a part of said manifold, said part being a tubular element.

20. (new) The device according to claim 17, wherein said manifold further comprises a central body and tubular elements that are connected respectively to at least one upper one-way membrane, to at least one lower one-way membrane, and to at least one lateral one-way membrane, which is arranged at one end of said lower band.